

**ABSTRACT**

The clam shell container is formed by a cover formed of cardboard, chipboard or other similar material. A thermoform plastic tray is adhered to the inner surface of the cover to form the completed clam shell container. When closed, the edges of the tray move closer to the edges of the cover. The thermoform is bonded to the tray with adhesive and the container is closed to allow the adhesive to cure in the closed configuration. When opened, stress is created by the tray being fixed to the cover. To alleviate the stress, perforations between the tray sections and the spine break forming three distinct sections. In the open configuration, a small gap is created between the tray section and the spine.